

## **Historic, Archive Document**

**Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.**



62-39 1905

# BURT'S DAHLIAS

U. S. LIBRARY, Horticulture, D. C.

HAVE AN UNEQUALLED RECORD

AWARDED

1908 Only **GRAND PRIZE** (highest possible honor) given for Dahlias at St. Louis Exposition.

Only **GOLD MEDAL** (highest possible honor) given for Dahlias at Pan-American Exposition.

**GOLD MEDAL** of Conn. Horticultural Society (twice).

**FIRST PRIZE** for the best 50 blooms at Dahlia Show of American Institute of New York City, for **TEN CONSECUTIVE YEARS**.

**FIRST PRIZE** at Indiana State Fair.

**MORE THAN 300 OTHER PRIZES** by Massachusetts Horticultural Society; Rhode Island Horticultural Society; Connecticut Horticultural Society; Pennsylvania Horticultural Society; American Institute, of New York; Newport, (R. I.) Horticultural Society; Worcester, (Mass.) Horticultural Society and others.

## Special Offer 20 Named Varieties, my selection, for \$1.00.

Hundreds of these collections have been sent out during the past few years and have given uniform satisfaction. Color and form are always well assorted, but varieties must be **entirely** of my selection without restrictions. Collections will be made up mainly from the varieties listed on this circular, no two alike, and labeled with the proper name. Field grown roots, and if possible, those already beginning to start will be sent. Large roots go by express at purchaser's expense, small roots by mail, postage paid. Prices for mailing roots include postage when sent either singly or in collections. The smallest roots sent out will give as good results as the large ones, if properly cared for. If larger roots are desired by mail, please add 25 cents for postage. One or more varieties of purchaser's selection furnished at list prices. Several varieties should always be named as second choice in case some of those selected cannot be supplied. It is impossible to keep all varieties of a long list in stock at all times. This offer applies to twenty varieties only, but it is frequently possible to supply more at same rate, if desired. Inquiries cheerfully answered. It is impracticable to specify in advance the particular kinds which will be included in a collection. My complete catalogue will be sent on request. See other side for abridged catalogue.

### CLASSIFICATION OF DAHLIAS

**Show Dahlias** include all large, close flowering varieties of a single color, and those in which the ground color is of a lighter shade than the edges or tips.

**Fancy Dahlias** include all striped large flowering varieties, and those in which the ground color is darker than the edges or tips. They are, as a rule, very variable, and often show but a single color.

**Pompon or Liliputian Dahlias** include all small flowering varieties.

**Cactus Dahlias** are characterized by long, pointed, somewhat revolute petals.

**Decorative Dahlias** include all large, loose flowering varieties that do not properly come under the Show, Fancy or Cactus classes.

**Single Dahlias** have but one row of petals.

---

## H. F. BURT, Taunton, Mass.

111

# CATALOGUE

All varieties not priced, 10 Cents each, \$1.00 per dozen

## Show Dahlias

A. D. Livoni, sea-shell pink  
Amazon, yellow, edged red  
Bird of Passage, white tipped pink  
Dr. J. P. Kirkland, dark crimson, large  
Duchess of Cambridge, light ground tipped purple, 20c.  
Grand Duke Alexis, white tinged lavender, very large, 25c.  
Harrison Weir, primrose yellow edged orange, 20c.  
Hector, brick red  
John Bennett, yellow edged scarlet, 20c.  
John Greenaway, maroon  
Mabel Stanton, clear yellow, dwarf, 20c.  
Madge Wildfire, scarlet, good  
Mary D. Hallock, clear yellow, good.  
Meteor, bright scarlet, very large  
Miss Cannell, white tipped rose pink, 20c.  
Miss Miller, creamy white  
Modesty, blush with light centre  
Mrs. Gladstone, soft blush, 20c.  
Mrs. Kendal, light ground edged purple, 20c.  
Mrs. Langtry, cream edged crimson, 20c.  
Mrs. Wm. Slack, blush white edged purple, 25c.  
Muriel, clear yellow, good, 20c.  
Oriole, gold and scarlet  
Penelope, white tinged lavender  
Pioneer, dark maroon, nearly black  
Puritan, white lavender and crimson  
Queen of Yellows, beautiful clear yellow  
Royal Queen, creamy ground edged purple  
Wm. Fawcett, yellow edged purple

## Fancy Dahlias

Comedian, orange flaked crimson, 20c.  
Crimson Variegatum, deep crimson tipped white  
Dandy, orange striped crimson, 20c.  
Dandy, lilac and maroon, 20c.  
Elegans, lilac tipped white  
Goldsmith, yellow edged crimson, 25c.  
Jessie McIntosh, red with white tip  
John Forbes, fawn striped maroon, 20c.  
Henry Eckford, yellow striped red, 25c.  
Lucy Fawcett, light yellow striped rosy lilac  
Ohio, lilac, striped deep crimson  
Cohannet, light lilac blotched white  
Matthew Campbell, buff striped crimson, 20c.  
Mrs. N. Halls, scarlet tipped white, 20c.  
Picta Fulgens, scarlet tipped white  
Queen Mab, scarlet tipped white very variable  
Striped Banner, crimson tipped white  
Sunset, yellow striped scarlet, 20c.

## Pompon Dahlias

Alwine, pink, 20c.  
Brunette, carmine often tipped white  
Catherine, yellow  
Coquette, yellow ground edged scarlet  
Crimson Beauty, rich crimson  
Eva, rosy carmine  
Fairy Queen, light yellow, reddish tip  
Geo. Brinkmann, pure white, 20c.  
Golden Gem, yellow, small and free  
Goldperle, yellow and brick red  
Gruss an Leipzig, orange red  
H. Millesky, shaded crimson  
Little Bobby, rich crimson  
Little Daisy, rose and white  
Little Prince, crimson tipped white  
Mabel, amber  
Mignon, crimson scarlet  
Mrs. Daniels, pink and rose  
Phoebe, deep golden orange  
Snowlad, white, 20c  
Viridiflora, green  
Vivid, bright orange scarlet  
Winifred, light ground, edged lilac

## Decorative Dahlias

Constance, white

Countess of Pembroke, soft lilac  
C. W. Bruton, yellow  
Dolly, pink and white  
Harry Freeman, white  
Jumbo, crimson  
Mahala Sheriff, white  
Maid of Kent, crimson and white  
Marchioness of Bute, rose and white  
Nymphaea, light pink  
Oban, fawn  
John Bragg, dark maroon, nearly black

## Single Dahlias

Cybele, yellow  
Eclipse, rose with fawn ring  
Man Friday, dark maroon  
Phoebe Gilbert, pink  
Rosebank Cardinal, cardinal red  
Theries, pink and white or striped  
Reversion, deep red  
Maud Millet, pink and white  
Innocence, white, 20c.

## Cactus Dahlias

African, crimson maroon, 40c.  
A. J. C. Hare, orange and red, 50c.  
Atalanta, white flushed purple, 25c.  
Beatrice, pale rose, 35c.  
Blanche Keith, yellow, 25c.  
Brilliant, bright scarlet  
Bridesmaid, primrose tipped rose, 35c.  
Britannia, salmon pink, 35c.  
Cannell's Gem, terra cotta and orange  
Capstan, brick red and apricot, 35c.  
Chancellor Swayne, rich plum, 35c.  
Charles Woodbridge, bright crimson, 35c.  
Countess of Lonsdale, salmon red, 40c.  
Cycle, rosy crimson, or carmine, 30c.  
Delicata, pink, 25c.  
Earl of Pembroke, plum color, 25c.  
Eastern Queen, magenta maroon, 35c.  
Frank Woodgate, yellow and scarlet, 35c.  
Fusilier, deep salmon, 30c.  
Geo. Jull, terra cotta red, 35c.  
Geo. Marlow, primrose yellow, 25c.  
Gloriosa, glowing scarlet, 20c.  
Green's White, pure white, 30c.  
Iona, terra cotta, 35c.  
Island Queen, light mauve, 40c.  
J. E. Frewer, vermilion, 35c.  
John H. Roach, soft yellow, 25c.  
Keynes's White, pure ivory white, 35c.  
Kingfisher, rosy purple, 40c.  
Kynareth, vermilion.  
King of Siam, purple and maroon, 40c.  
Loreley, rose shaded white, 35c.  
Major Weston, rich velvety crimson, 50c.  
Mary Service, pinkish heliotrope, 35c.  
Matchless, dark velvety maroon, 20c.  
Mayor Tuppenny, yellow and orange fawn, 50c.  
Miss Agnes Box, rich scarlet, 35c.  
Mr. Moore, brilliant maroon and crimson, 35c.  
Mrs. Allhusen, rose and white, 20c.  
Mrs. A. Peart, creamy white, 20c.  
Mrs. Bennett, soft crimson  
Mrs. Chas. Turner, bright yellow, fine, 25c.  
Mrs. Dickson, soft rose, 35c.  
Mrs. L. Seymour, yellow and pink, 25c.  
Mrs. Scrase-Dickens, rich golden yellow, 25c.  
Octopus, white shaded purple, 40c.  
Porcupine, dark scarlet maroon, 35c.  
Primrose Dame, yellow 35c.  
Princess Christian, magenta  
Princess Ena, beautiful light orange, 35c.  
Regulus, deep crimson, 35c.  
Ruby, rich ruby red, 35c.  
Sparkler, bright crimson, 40c.  
Standard Bearer, fiery scarlet, 35c.  
Starfish, orange scarlet, 35c.  
St. Catherine, soft reddish amber  
Stella, vivid crimson, 40c.  
Strahlenkrone, deep scarlet, 40c.  
The Czar, intense crimson maroon, 35c.  
Uncle Tom, dark maroon, 50c.

## WHAT OUR CUSTOMERS SAY.

The following extracts are from letters written when parties were sending subsequent orders or making farther inquiries, all entirely unsolicited.

I have had your collection for two years and it has been great for the money.

—Cutchogue, N. Y.

Every one you sent us last year grew and they were very beautiful.

—Beloit, Wisconsin.

The dahlias received from you last spring were successful as usual and with those that I had from you before and carried over made that portion of my garden a most beautiful sight.

—Plymouth, Mass.

We ordered a dozen last year and had great success and we hope for greater things this year.

—Providence, R. I.

I got your special offer last year and must say that it was the best dollar's worth of dahlias that I ever bought.

—Humboldt Co., California.

I have had dahlias from you for the past two years and want some more this year.

—Boston, Mass.

Please send me the enclosed dollar's worth of dahlias, your selection. We were well pleased with those we had from you last year.

—Rowley, Mass.

At the **Pan-American**, your dahlias were the most beautiful I have ever seen.

—Oyster Bay, N. Y.

Some four years ago, I bought a collection of dahlias from you. Would say that they have grown better every year and we had a fine bloom from them last season. Have a very fine collection from the shipment made at that time.

—Portland, Maine.

Those I received from you last season were beautiful, especially those left to your selection.

—Lisbon, Falls, Maine.

I have bought dahlias from you for three successive years and they have given satisfaction. Enclosed please find

—Swarthmore, Pa.

The dahlias I ordered of you last spring came in good order. All grew nicely; I gave them special attention. They grew from 3 to 6 feet tall and bloomed beautifully. They attracted the whole town. I have known as many as 20 or 30 people to come in one day to see them.

—Flowery Branch, Ga.

The dahlias we got from you last year were a revelation to the florists of this place and I never saw such fine ones before.

—Blue Ridge, Georgia.

The bulbs arrived this morning in good shape and I am well pleased with them.

—Waukegan, Illinois.

Have been getting of you for several years past with good results.

—Polo, Illinois.

Enclosed please find \$1 for which please send me 20 dahlia bulbs, the same kind as you sent me last spring. They were lovely.

—Redwood, N. Y.

Some few years ago I ordered of you \$1 worth of dahlias and got some very fine ones and now this year I intend doing the same thing.

—Newport, Vermont.

Please send me twenty dahlias as soon as possible. The ones I got last year did fine and I was more than satisfied with them.

—South Nelson, New Brunswick.

Please send me 20 named varieties of dahlias as soon as you can. I took first prize at two fairs last fall on your dahlias and I hope to do the same this year.

—Rockville, Conn.

Last year I got 20 dahlias of you which were the envy of my neighbors so attractive were they. I wish some more.

—Batesville, Arkansas.

We enclose herewith \$1 for another of your collections of dahlia bulbs. We found the two previous ones entirely satisfactory.

—Rochester, N. Y.

Collection was good and all right last spring.

—Sugar Creek, Ohio.

I have grown all the fancy varieties and all seem to stand the full tropical sun without trouble.

—Cienfuegos, Cuba.

The dahlias I purchased from you last spring, I planted according to your directions and they did well and furnished me many beautiful flowers. (The dahlias to which this gentleman refers were shipped June 12th.)

—Goshen, N. Y.

Your 20 for \$1 lot of dahlias proved so good last year, that I wish two this year, one for myself and one for a new customer.

—Boston, Mass.

I have received a box containing 20 dahlia roots which I suppose were sent to me to "make good" a belated order of last year. Thank you very much. I appreciate your kindness and liberality as I consider it. I succeeded in getting some handsome dahlias out of those sent me last year though planted June 30th, the day received.

—Ross, Michigan.

Last spring I purchased some dahlia roots of you, the first I ever bought. I did not put the roots into the ground until June 15th for I was too busy to prepare the ground but notwithstanding that I am more than pleased with results. I have had an abundant supply of flowers and they have been admired by the whole town. I had about 40 named varieties from you. I am so well satisfied with the varieties you sent me that I wish to keep all the roots but two or three kinds and next spring shall buy some more.

—Norfolk, Mass.

Last year I received 20 of your named dahlias. Am well pleased with them.

—Ripon, Wisconsin.

Those you sent me last year although reaching me late in the season, proved very beautiful and attractive.

—Washington, D. C.

Enclosed please find \$1 for which please send me 20 dahlias. I had some from you last year which were fine.

—Pottersville, N. Y.

Dear sir:—Have often thought of writing to you to tell you how pleased I was with the dahlias last year. This is rather a late day to speak of last summer's flowers but "better late than never." If you have your spring catalogues, will you kindly send three or four copies. I have promised different ones who are interested in flowers.

—Austin, Illinois.

## SOMETHING ABOUT DAHLIAS.

---

The Dahlia, named in honor of Dahl, a Swedish botanist, first mentioned in print in 1615 and first introduced into Europe in 1789, is a native of Mexico, where it grows in sandy locations several thousand feet above the sea level. Spain first received it from the New World, and though almost immediately introduced into England, owing to methods of culture it failed to become established until about 1815, when it had already gained a wide foothold on the Continent, but a large proportion of the best developments have come from English gardens. In its wild state the dahlia is a perennial single flower, having eight rays or petals, and belongs to the same botanical order as the common oxeye daisy. The double forms are entirely the result of selection and high cultivation, and there is always a tendency towards "running out" or reversion to the original form. The first double or semi-double flowers were obtained about the beginning of the nineteenth century and the rapid development of these has produced the show and pompon classes of to-day. The cactus class is derived from the variety Juarez, introduced from Mexico into Europe in 1872 and first exhibited in England, September 3, 1880. To-day this is the most interesting and progressive class. One wild species seems to have been the parent of all cultivated varieties. The English National Dahlia Society's catalogue enumerates about 1400 varieties. The catalogues of French, American and German growers would probably swell this list to 2000 or 2500, perhaps more.

**Classification.**—Dahlias are classified in reference to structure into *single* and *double*, in reference to size into *large-flowering* and *small-flowering*, in reference to growth into *tall* and *dwarf*. The large-flowering are divided in reference to the form of the rays or petals into Show, Decorative and Cactus varieties. In all Show varieties the rays or petals are rolled forward, in all Decorative varieties they are flat or nearly so, in all Cactus varieties they are recurved or revolute, rolled backwards. The small-flowering sorts are called Pompon, Lilliputian, Bouquet and German, indiscriminately. The term "Fancy" is applied to all striped flowers and to those in which the ground color is of a darker shade than the edge or tip. There are "fancies" in all classes.

**Soil, Location, Etc.**—Any soil thoroughly prepared and enriched is suitable. The location should be open, giving freedom of air and sunlight. Generous space should be provided. A narrow border, a foot or two wide, with a close sward on both sides is not a place for dahlias. A distance of three feet in every direction from other vegetation is little enough for each plant. A medium-sized tuber with a single sprout usually gives best results. Plant at the bottom of a trench, covering the root about an inch. Draw in the earth around the stalk as it grows until the original tuber is six or eight inches below the surface. Roots may be started in pots filled with soil and allowed to grow until plants are two or three inches high, then transplanted and plunged in the earth so as to leave only the growing portion of the stalk just above ground. Keep the ground free from weeds and thoroughly stirred. After the plants begin to blossom, rake very lightly or cover the entire surface with a mulch of hay, straw or strawy manure. The latter part of May or early June is early enough for planting out roots which are well started. By early planting blossoms may be obtained soon after July 4th, but the quality will be inferior throughout the season to those coming a month later.

Propagation is by cuttings, by division of roots and by seeds. The seeds do not reproduce the parent variety, but give new forms, good, bad and indifferent. New and improved varieties are obtained by selecting and propagating the best seedlings. Cuttings and divided roots multiply the same variety. After the buds start, roots may be divided into as many parts as there are growing shoots, a sprout being taken with each root. A root having more than one sprout may be split. Clumps should always be separated thus before planting. Cuttings are made after the shoots have developed two or three pairs of leaves, by making a smooth cut just below a joint, removing the lower pair of leaves close to the stalk, with a knife. They are easily rooted in the usual way.

Lift the roots promptly after the tops are killed by frost, and after drying during the day store away from frost, heat and dampness. They keep best in a box or barrel well filled with dry earth. In the spring they can be removed to a warm situation and divided after beginning to start.

Roots of several hundred varieties may be obtained from H. F. Burt, Taunton, Mass., who undoubtedly has the largest and best collection in America, and who has been awarded the highest prizes of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, the Rhode Island Horticultural Society, the Connecticut Horticultural Society and the American Institute of New York. The constant addition of the latest novelties keeps his stock thoroughly up to date. Every lover of flowers should write to him.